

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Thunder Bay Community Boat Building Program



Instructors Jerry Meek (left) and Ron Chatfield (center) help a student install a seat brace.

Thunder Bay National
Marine Sanctuary
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A Unique Program

The Thunder Bay Community Boat Building Program is sponsored by the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. This volunteer driven program offers several opportunities for individuals of all experience levels to participate in small boat building. There are even opportunities to become an instructor- we'll train you!

Family Boat Building Weekend

Looking for an interesting and educational family activity this summer? Why not join us to build your own 8-foot long Eastport Pram? Each summer the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve sponsors an annual Family Boat Building Weekend. This fun and educational weekend takes place in July during Alpena's Annual Thunder Bay Maritime Festival. We provide the tools and instruction. No prior boat building experience is necessary and each family takes home a beautiful wooden boat suitable for sailing or rowing.

Community Projects

In 2005 the Thunder Bay Community Boat Building Program will move into its new home at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, located on the Thunder Bay River in Alpena. The 20,000 square foot Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center is an exciting place where visitors will be able to explore sanctuary shipwrecks and the rich maritime history of the Great Lakes. Our Boat Building Shop will be located on the grounds of the center and offer community-based programs where people of all ages can learn and experience traditional boat building.



THUNDER BAY



The Thunder Bay Community Boat Building Program is made possible by the generous work of volunteers. For more details about the program, the Family Boat Building Weekend or becoming a volunteer, please contact Russ Green at 989-356-8805 ext. 16 or russ.green@noaa.gov

The 2004 Boat Building Team